MOTION NO. M2013-59
Parking Management Pilot

MEETING:	DATE:	TYPE OF ACTION:	STAFF CONTACT:	PHONE:
Operations & Administration Committee	07/18/2013	Recommendation to Board	Ric Ilgenfritz, Executive Director, PEPD **Rachel Wilch, Associate Planner**	206-398-5239 206-398-5460
Board	07/25/2013	Final Action	Michael Miller, Customer Facilities and Accessible Services Manager Brian Brooke, Research, Policy and Business Development Manager	206-689-4927 206-398-5229

PROPOSED ACTION

(1) Authorizes a parking management pilot to test the use of parking permits, rideshare collaboration, and real-time parking availability monitoring at selected Sound Transit parking facilities, and (2) establishes an administrative fee of $5 per quarter for high-occupancy vehicle parking permits and an administrative fee of $33 per quarter for single-occupancy vehicle parking permits during the pilot period.

KEY FEATURES SUMMARY

- This action allows staff to conduct 2014 testing and evaluation of parking management strategies allowed under the System Access Policy (Resolution No. R2013-03), including:
  - Implementation of customer parking permits
  - Relocation of vanpool customer parking
  - Promotion of vanshare and carpool to ST-operated parking facilities
  - Implementation of real-time parking availability monitoring
- This action authorizes fees for parking permits of $5 per quarter for high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) permits and $33 per quarter for single-occupancy vehicle (SOV) permits, to cover anticipated administrative costs of permit implementation
- The parking management strategies to be implemented will benefit transit customers and the agency, by improving parking availability for transit users and efficient use of parking facilities:
  - Increasing the number of transit riders per parking stall
  - Spreading demand across parking facilities
  - Providing data to help the agency manage existing and future parking facilities more efficiently

BACKGROUND

As of May 2013, 13 of 23 Sound Transit-operated customer parking facilities were at or above 90% capacity. Demand for park and ride spaces will continue to increase as transit service expands and regional population and employment grow. Sound Transit currently manages more than 13,000 parking spaces. By 2020 that number is expected to exceed 19,000 parking spaces.

At its April 2012 Retreat, the Board identified the need to address increasing usage of parking facilities, growing customer concerns about current parking capacity, and the limited management and enforcement tools allowed under the 2002 parking policy for managing parking facilities. In

March 2013, the Board adopted the System Access Policy (Resolution No. R2013-03), to expand the agency's parking management and enforcement tools.

Following extensive work across Sound Transit departments and with partner transit agencies, the following pilot activities will be tested in 2014:

Parking Permits

At pilot facilities for parking permits, initially 10% (and up to 20%) of parking spaces would be allocated for vehicles displaying HOV transit customer parking permits, and initially 10% (and up to 20%) would be allocated for SOV transit customer permit holders. The remaining spaces would remain free spaces for use by all customers on a first-come, first-served basis. Quarterly permits and renewals would be allowed for applicants who can demonstrate regular transit ridership (at least three days per week) through ORCA records, and who pay a nominal administrative fee. Permit-only spaces would be enforced during morning peak hours and revert to general parking mid-morning. Violators would receive one written warning, followed by towing and impoundment for subsequent violations.

For the 2014 pilot, fees of $5 per quarter for HOV permits and $33 per quarter for SOV permits will be sufficient to cover anticipated costs of the permit implementation. Permit fees will gauge the willingness of transit riders to ensure parking availability throughout the morning peak commute hours. For transit riders, the key benefit of parking permits is increased certainty that parking will be available to them when they need it. Market-based pricing will not be tested during this pilot period. Fees charged for permits are based on coverage of anticipated costs for implementation and management of this tool.

Parking permits will be recommended for piloting at the Issaquah Transit Center, Sumner Station, Mukilteo Station, and Tukwila International Boulevard Station. Based on an estimated level of effort to permit these facilities, approximately $21,000 will be requested in the proposed 2014 budget.

Rideshare Management and Collaboration

Currently, a significant number of parking spaces at high-demand Sound Transit-operated parking facilities are regularly used by commuters forming carpools or vanpools who do not ride buses or trains serving those facilities. To improve the efficient use of all available transit and commuter parking, Sound Transit will collaborate with partner agencies to encourage and incentivize relocation of carpool and vanpool formation activities to other transit centers or park and ride lots with available capacity, operated by Sound Transit or partner public agencies.

Promotional activities and incentive funds would also be used to encourage formation of vanshares (vanpools with a transit facility as a destination) and carpooling to Sound Transit parking facilities, bringing multiple transit riders per vehicle.

Relocation of vanpool/carpool customer parking will be tested at Overlake Transit Center, Sumner Station, South Everett Freeway Station, and Federal Way Transit Center. Promotion of vanshares and carpools to Sound Transit parking facilities would take place at multiple facilities throughout the region. Approximately $60,000 will be requested in the proposed 2014 budget for these activities.

Real-Time Parking Availability Monitoring

Technology systems used to monitor and communicate the number of vehicles using a parking facility – and numbers of parking spaces available – help users avoid circling a lot, searching for an available space, and makes more efficient use of alternate parking facilities. This technology will help spread out demand for parking to facilities where there is additional supply. Data collected would also be useful in determining the relationship between parking availability, ridership and peak demand, and in planning future parking facilities.

This element of the pilot would install parking monitoring systems at Federal Way Transit Center, Puyallup Station, South Everett freeway Station, and Auburn Station. These systems would stream real-time availability data to customers via web and mobile applications developed as part of the pilot. $273,000 will be requested in the proposed 2014 budget for these activities.

Administration, Communication, Evaluation and Monitoring

Testing these parking management activities will require extensive outreach and communication with customers and careful management. To ensure successful evaluation of the pilot activities to best determine recommendations for future long-term or system-wide implementation, significant effort must be undertaken to monitor and track baseline conditions, customer and staff experience, impacts on host jurisdictions and partner agencies, and observed outcomes on parking and transit use.

Projected expenses for pilot administration, customer communication, monitoring and evaluation are $96,000 for all pilot sites and activities.

FISCAL IMPACT

Anticipated expenditures to implement the parking pilot programs are $450,000, plus a 10% contingency of $45,000, totaling $495,000. Of this, $20,000 is authorized in the 2013 budget. The remaining $~~475,000~~,475,000 would be included in the upcoming Proposed 2014 Budget.

SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION

Not applicable to this action.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT WORKFORCE PROFILE

Not applicable to this action.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Not applicable to this action.

TIME CONSTRAINTS

A one month delay would not have a significant impact on this action.

PRIOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Resolution No. R2013-03: Established a parking and system access policy for infrastructure and improvements to facilitate customer access to Sound Transit services, and superseded Motion No. M2002-122.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

JI 7/9/2013

LEGAL REVIEW

RM 7/12/13

MOTION NO. M2013-59

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (1) authorizing a parking management pilot to test the use of parking permits, rideshare collaboration, and real-time parking availability monitoring at selected Sound Transit parking facilities, and (2) establishing an administrative fee of $5 per quarter for high-occupancy vehicle parking permits and an administrative fee of $33 per quarter for single-occupancy vehicle parking permits during the pilot period.

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Projected expenses for pilot administration, customer communication, monitoring and evaluation are $96,000 for all pilot sites and activities.

MOTION:

It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that a parking management pilot to test the use of parking permits, rideshare collaboration, and real-time parking availability monitoring at selected Sound Transit parking facilities is authorized, and an administrative fee of $5 per quarter for high-occupancy vehicle parking permits and an administrative fee of $33 per quarter for single-occupancy vehicle parking permits during the pilot period is established.

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on _____.

_____
Pat McCarthy
Board Chair

ATTEST:

_____
Marcia Walker
Board Administrator